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F.No.8-4/99-FC
Government of India
Ministry of Environment and Forests
F.C. Division

Fax: 4361773, 4363232
Paryavaran Bhawan,
CGO Complex, Lodhi Road,
New Delhi - 110 003.
Dated: 10 August, 1999

To,
The Secretary(Forest)
Government of Assam
Dispur.

26/8
Subject: Diversion of 35.20 ha. of forest land falling in side Sathvandi Reserved Forest, under Haltugaon division, Kokrajhar for construction of 400 KV Bongaigaon sub-station by Power Grid Corporation of India Ltd.

Sir,
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I am directed to refer to your letter no. FRS.128/97/143 dated 14.12.1998 on the above mentioned subject seeking prior approval of the Central Govt. in accordance with section-2 of Forest(Conservation) Act,1980.

After careful consideration of the proposal of the State Govt., Central Govt., hereby agrees in principle for diversion of 35.20 ha. of forest land falling inside Sathvandi Reserved Forest under Haltugaon division in Kokrajhar district for construction of 400 KV Bongaigaon sub-station by Power Grid Corporation of India Ltd. subject to fulfilment of following conditions:

1. Immediate action will be taken for transfer and mutation of equivalent non-forest land in favour of State Forest Department .
2. The user agency will transfer fund to forest department for raising compensatory afforestation over equivalent non-forest land .
3. The user agency will transfer fund to forest department for penal compensatory afforestation to an extent of ten times of the area being diverted i.e over 352 ha. degraded forest land.
4. Action shall be taken by the State Govt./Competent authority against the Deputy Commissioner, Kokrajhar and other Officers of the NEEPCO/Power Grid Corporation of India Ltd. for violation of Forest(Conservation)Act,1980.

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After receipt of compliance report on the fulfilment of the above conditions from the State Govt., formal approval will be issued in this regard under section-2 of the Forest(Conservation) Act, 1980. Transfer of forest land to user agency should not be effected by the State Govt. till formal orders approving diversion of forest land are issued by the Central Govt.

Yours faithfully,

(V.B.KUMAR)
ASSTT. I.G.F

Copy to,

1. PCCF, Govt. of Assam, Dispur.
- ✓ 2. CCF(C), R.O, Shillong.
3. Nodal Officer, O/O PCCF, Govt. of Assam, Dispur.
4. RO(HQ.) New Delhi.
5. Guard File.
6. M/S PGCIL.

V.B. Kumar
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(V.B.KUMAR)
ASSTT. I.G.F